

Cracklin' Static

March 2021 Edition



**Zoom Virtual
meeting this
month See page
4....**

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesday 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

**SNARS Treasury Closing Balances
As of 2/27/2021**

Operating	\$8108
Savings	\$11112
Self Insurance	\$10499
PayPal	\$902
Convention	\$4295
Total	\$34916

Net Monthly	\$343
Net YTD	-\$45

Memberships	18
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SNARS Membership as of

Extra	150	35%
General	145	34%
Technician	118	27%
Advanced	16	4%
No License	0	0%
License Expired	2	0%

Total 431

SNARS ARRL Members

Regular	246	57%
Life	41	10%

PRESIDENT'S VOICE

President John Byerly, N7ROJ

Email: mtnlion@gmail.com



Hello everyone!

I hope this month's newsletter finds you happy and healthy.

It seems as if winter is starting to fade, and according to the health department numbers, the pandemic may be turning a corner as well.

I'm sure we are all looking forward to when we can have

meetings again in person as well as other events. The board and I are closely monitoring the situation as well as the guidance from the officials. We are hopeful that we can soon restart the process of finding us a place to meet and enjoy some in-person events.

We will keep everyone posted, and hopefully soon we can announce in-person events. Until then, we will stick to Zoom for meetings and ham radio night.

Have fun, be well. See you on the next meeting!

John N7ROJ



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
 Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family
 775.453.4142 <http://snars.org>

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President.....John Byerly, N7ROJ
 Vice-President.....John Miller N7JDM
 Treasurer.....Bill Jones, AE7OX
 Secretary.....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
 DirectorWes Vick, KG7QXE
 DirectorJim Shepherd, W6US
 DirectorBarry Bettman, K6ST

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Cracklin Static Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
 W7TA Trustee Peter DeBay, KE7VSR
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Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden WB2AWQ - holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Published the week before meetings. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 - PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 - PL 123.0	Winnemucca	Online
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	Offline

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Offline

Fusion Systems

146.610 - PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Online

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online



Online



Offline



Not Linked

Thank you to our Sponsors/Supporters



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
 147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
 147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
 444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
 146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
 146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
 147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday at 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newslane	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm
Nevada State ARES Net	Thursday - 7:00PM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Weak Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays
 8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday, 6:00PM
 March10, Location and mode TBD

QCWA Nevada Chapter meeting March 13, 11am –
 12pm Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, 4925 Kietzke Ln,
 Reno

HAM RADIO NIGHT on Zoom March 15, 7:00 PM
 see <https://snars.org/hamradionight/>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AS OF 2-28-21

Phil	Klein	KJ7UNP
Bobby	Weaver	KE5NF
Cordain	Lucas	KB3YUX
Charles	Morris	KG6AOI
Jerry	Cole	KD6TL
Hilary	McGartlin	N7HWM
John	Vercelli	AD6ZI
Mathew	Gillespie	KB3SKT
Ann	Flory	KG6LGK
William	Stefancik	AE6FN
Robert	Collins	N5JET

SNARS Virtual Monthly Meeting

SNARS (virtual on zoom conferencing) Monthly Meeting on
Saturday 3-6-21 8:00a PST

Topic: Backcountry HAM preparedness conversations (with Rita WL7CQW)



TO REGISTER go to: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlscemsgDwpHNAptWRCV8Y3ltI9ab2HKJb9>

Any questions, email Barry k6st@arri.net

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US nvjims@gmail.com

FIELD DAY IS COMING!!!

The last weekend in June, we will all be gathering at Washoe State Park to operate around the clock for the 24 hours of Field Day. Set up will be on Friday, June 25 and we will need help stringing long wire antennas between the trees and other setups! We will be at the main group use area down by the boat launch and there are lots of tall trees for antenna supports.

Radios and antennas may make the contacts, but they don't run without a lot of other things working properly. We are going to be an "A" class station which means that we will be running the radios on power other than that supplied by NV Energy. The bulk of that power will be by gas powered generators.

We also will be using 'shore power' from the park's power system for the logging computers and any needed lighting. If you have a small UPS, bring it to use with a logging computer as some of them do not have good batteries and any power bump could shut them down. Computers used with the digital modes will also need to be on generator power and should have a UPS to clean up the power and keep the computer running during refueling operations. Additional lighting is needed for outlying stations and should have LED bulbs to keep our power draw to a minimum as we may have very limited power on the park system. 12 Vdc LEDs are radio quiet, so any 120 Vac bulbs need to be checked ahead of time to make sure that their switching power supply is radio quiet. Additional outdoor rated 3 wire extension cords and power strips are needed for the computer power system. Be sure to label any equipment that you bring.

The computers will be set up to interface with most of the radios which will help with logging as the mode and frequencies entries will be automatic. We will be using the N1MM+ logging software as it has very robust and easy to use networking capabilities. We have several modern laptops available for this use and we will need a couple more to cover all of the positions.

Here is your chance to try some different modes and equipment with lots of potential contacts out there ready to come back to your CQ. We will have 2 stations dedicated to CW, 2 dedicated to the digital modes and 3 stations on voice mode. Since we will have Extra class control operators available, every one operating will be able to use all the parts of the ham bands. Being a 24 hour operation, we are really looking for folks to operate in the late night and early morning periods. Virtually all of our 80M contacts were made late at night the last few years.

There is limited space under the main shelter, so some stations may need a canopy or tent for shelter. Thunderstorms like we have had in past years are accompanied by high, gusty winds so the shelters must be up to the task at hand. We will also need to hang some tarps around the main shelter to deflect horizontal rain, wind and the sun in the late afternoon and early morning. Stations associated with motorhomes will need to be set up outside so visitors and the general public can see the operations, and most recreational vehicles

have canopies to help with that. A few extra tarps to put over the equipment during the storms are also needed.

There are plenty of park tables with attached benches, however while they are nice for a few minutes while eating, sitting on those benches for hours while operating can get old... Good folding tables with comfortable chairs really can make for better operating positions. Try out your combination at home first or bring your chair to our 'on site' meeting in June and check it with the end of the park tables. Most of the foldup camping chairs actually have you sitting too low to be comfortable at a table. For those stations that will not be operating on the cement pad under the main shelter, a large throw rug will help keep the dust down around your operating position and make it easier to use a foot switch and move your chair.

With all of the power cables, coax, CAT5 and other tripping hazards, we are in need of cable and cord shield covers to put across walkways. These will save wear and tear on the cables, keep people from tripping and, more importantly, prevent your radio from being jerked off of the table or the power disconnected in the middle of a contact.... I will bring some flagging for guy lines as they are also a potential hazard as we move around the site. If you are using rebar or other metal stakes to tie down your setups, you will need to cover the ends to prevent injuries—used plastic drink bottles make good covers. Hint—8 to 12" x 1/2" lag bolts with a fender washer make very good stakes for light guying and shelter hold-downs and can be driven flush to the ground with an electric impact driver which I will bring for use.

Saturday night, we will have a dinner at 1900 hrs local (7 pm or 0200Z Sunday). We have a great menu and Tri-Tip will top the menu. We are going to charge \$7.50 per person for the dinner if you pay before 1700 local on Wednesday, June 23. Look for the signup on the SNARS.ORG website in the near future. After that time it will go to \$15 and we do request that you RSVP so we can get enough food. We have a few renown chefs for most of the cooking, but can really use some additional help for prep and serving excellent meals to the crew as well as shopping for the vittles!

While the club has paid the group use fee, it is up to each vehicle entering the park to pay the \$5 day use fee or the \$15 camping fee if they are staying overnight. Out of state folks are charged a couple of bucks more, and if you have a park pass, it can be less. It gets really expensive if you do not pay and are checked. The park has been good to us, and the money goes back toward the operation and improvement of the facilities.

This is the biggest club event of the year, and we would like everyone to participate!!!! There are lots of ways to help, especially with the logistics of putting this event on. We have the biggest Field Day event in the State and it is a good place to try different operating modes and equipment. Be sure to mark your calendar for June 25-27 to attend!

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER FIFTY FOUR

Mike Katz, N7MSK

Portable Operations Checklist

This is a list of key things to pack when planning to operate portable. Not everything is needed every time, but a fairly comprehensive list helps me keep from forgetting the important things.

Equipment

- Transceiver
- Power Supply (or Batteries and Charger)
- Antenna Tuner
- Watt/SWR Meter
- Field Strength Meter
- Antenna

Dummy Antenna

Operating Accessories

- Key (or Keyer and Paddle)

Headphones

Cables and Adapters

- Coax Cables (Xcvr to SWR Meter to Tuner)
- Cable for Key (or for Paddle and Keyer)
- Key Adapter (if needed)
- Headphone Adapter (if needed)

Ground Cable

Tools

- Diagonal Cutters
- Needle Nose
- Wire Strippers
- Screw Drivers (Slotted and Phillips)
- Electricians Knife
- Soldering Iron and Solder

Digital Multimeter

Records and Supplies

- Copy of License
- Log Book
- Blank Paper

Pens and Pencils

Spares and Other Stuff

- Hook-Up Wire
- Electrical Tape
- Fuses

SHORT TAKES (By Jim Shepherd W6US)

CONTEST CALENDAR

The State QSO Party season with 4 more states this month. Oklahoma, Idaho and Wisconsin are having their parties on March 13 and 14, and Virginia is having theirs on March 20 and 21. The ARRL SSB DX contest is on March 5-7 and is a good time to pick up a couple of new countries toward your DXCC award... You can get the full information about these and other contests at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

DX

There are lots of other stations who might be on the air from their home QTH operating as they are in the same situation

that we are with Covid19. There are some operations starting to pick up. The Caribbean seems to be the featured area this month. The DX contest will add a lot more DX activity, and since all the DX stations are looking for Nevada for the multiplier, they will be happy to work you. More information can be found at <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Third Monday ZOOM Ham Radio Night

We will see the return of our popular Ham Radio Nights via ZOOM to get your questions answered. It will be held at 7pm on Monday, March 15. More information, including the link will be published before that date.

NAME THAT RIG

(Answer on page 9)



YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

DMR WORKSHOP AT UNR

Bright and early on a Wednesday morning, I logged onto Zoom not to attend any of my many classes of the day, but to attend an exciting DMR workshop hosted by Barry Bettman (K6ST), Ed Boog (KJ7DHY), and Brian Verhalen (KJ6EAC) of SNARS! As a member of the University of Nevada, Reno Amateur Radio Club, it has been challenging to come up with events for our members during COVID times. But thanks to a collaboration between our Club President, Nathan Gay (KN6FFU), and Barry, we were excited to start the semester off strong with this event. As my fellow UNR Club members, Dillon Seward (KJ7RNP) and Walker Lindsay joined the meeting, and introductions were exchanged, we jumped right into the workshop. (Here is something we did learn, Ed once flew in an F-15 fighter jet!)



Barry started us off by showing the Repeater map on the SNARS website. As a newbie Ham without much knowledge of repeaters and how they operate, I learned about PL tones and the offset frequency conventions. Brian also shared useful databases such as Repeater Book and C.A.R.L.A. for hams to learn more about specific repeaters in different regions. As I soon found out, some repeaters have both Link and Local PL's, a fact I was not aware of. Another key lesson emphasized in the workshop was the importance of geography when using repeaters. I learned that being aware of one's location and possible obstructions is an im-

portant part of making contacts in any mode, analog or digital. After some questions from Dillon and me, Barry decided to make an international contact to demonstrate the power of DMR radio. As Barry keyed the mic and we all listened closely, it was exciting to hear a crisp, British accent come through the speakers. I felt a smile grow on my face as Barry talked to a lad from the UK thousands of miles away.

As a fairly new ham, sometimes the plethora of operating modes and the complexity of DMR can be a little daunting! This workshop demystified much of that complexity and was a fun event for our members. On behalf of the UNR Amateur Radio Club, I would like to extend a huge thank you to SNARS, Barry, Ed, and Brian for helping us learn more about the exciting world of DMR and analog radio.



Lisa Cummings, KN6KEA, Club Treasurer, UNR Amateur Radio Club.

Barry K6ST - k6st@arrrl.net
Nevada Section Youth Coordinator
ARRL (American Radio Relay League) www.arrrl.org
The national association for amateur radio

STRAYS

SNARS is helping an older ham downsize

Looking for a home:
24' steel mast pole

See two pictures to the right:

If interested contact Barry K6ST
k6st@arrrl.net

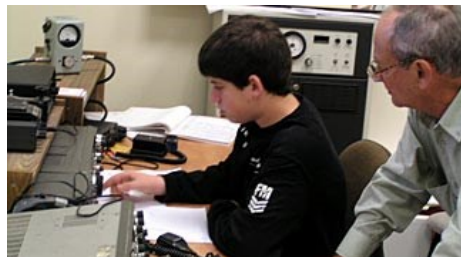


W7SSB's FUN STUFF

AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY

Israel

Recently I was approached by a ham in Israel asking to become a dealer. I did some investigating and found out there are no amateur radio dealers in Israel.



There are roughly 400 licensed hams and about 100 active.

Now for some interesting history.....

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/history-of-radio-in-israel>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmko95ppAdU>

CHIP SHORTAGE

There is a chip shortage affecting both audio and amateur radio manufacturers. Many products from Yaesu, Kenwood, Icom and Alinco (not to mention ALL SORTS of electronic devices!.....ed) will be in short supply or canceled !



<https://www.prosoundnetwork.com/business/akm-factory-fire-shakes-up-pro-audio-industry>

CHAMELEON ANTENNA MANUFACTURING VIDEO

Chameleon Antenna manufacturing operation in California.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xhuf5NB3FDU&feature=emb_title

73, Don W7SSB

FUN STUFF FOR FEBRUARY

March has 2 ARRL/NCJ sponsored contests, shown in BOLD, and there are four state QSO parties: Oklahoma, Idaho, Wisconsin, and Virginia. None are listed here, see the ARRL link below for dates and details. So get on the air and give the state QSO guys some contacts (especially our fellow 7-landers in Idaho...)

6 Mar 0000 to 7 Mar 2359 1.8-28 ARRL International DX Contest,
www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

6 Mar 0000 to 14 Mar 2359 3.5-144 Novice Rig Roundup CW Name, QTH, rig, mbr www.novicerigroundup.org

10 Mar 2300 to 14 Mar 2300 3.5-14 AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest CW www.antiquewireless.org

13 Mar 1500 to 14 Mar 1500 1.8 Stew Perry Topband Challenge CW
www.kkn.net/stew

13 Mar 1800 to 14 Mar 1800 1.8-50 QCWA QSO Party CW Ph Dig Year first licensed, name, SPC www.qcwa.org

13 Mar 2300 to 14 Mar 0300 3.5-14 North American Sprint, RTTY
Dig www.ncjweb.com

14 Mar 1400 to 17 Mar 0800 1.8-144 Classic Exchange, Phone
www.classicexchange.org

27 Mar 0000 to 28 Mar 2359 1.8-28 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB Ph RS, serial www.cqwpw.com

For full details, visit the websites, and for other contests see:
<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2021/March%202021%20Corral.pdf>

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase! We're still seeing the effects of Covid-19, and the pickin's are slim but slowly improving. I'll list all that's on the calendar, until the stack improves! Cayman, Sint Maarten, and Curacao aren't rare, but it's what we've got!

Feb 20 to Mar 05	Cayman Is	ZF2BJ
Feb 26 to Apr 02	Wake I	KH9
Feb 27 to Mar 27	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA
Mar 10 to Mar 31	Minami Torishima	JD1
Mar 04 to Mar 23	Curacao	PJ2
Mar 16 to Mar 23	Cocos Keeling	VK9CE

Check <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> for updates on DXpeditions to make sure they're still a go!

RENO QRP SLOW SPEED CW NET

NEXT NET SESSION WILL BE MARCH 11, at 11 AM LOCAL. Target frequency is 7.045 MHz, if busy search somewhere near that frequency.

THE FOLLOWING SHOULD ALWAYS BE IN YOUR REPORT

SNARS - Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society, Inc—<http://snars.org>

NAME, RST, LOCATION, RIG, POWER, ANTENNA. REMEMBER TO INCLUDE RST IN YOUR REPORT

Feel free to add something else in your exchange.

Take some time to report RST for other OP's or anything else that comes to mind.

Sharing information about you and your equipment will accomplish two things.

First It gives you and everybody else practice sending and copying.
Second It is nice to spend time on the air with your friends. Consider this a QRP meeting on the air.

Relax and have some airtime fun with your friends.
73/72 Ed/WD7Y

NAME THAT RIG (from page 6)

After WW2 many companies returned with a vengeance to the Ham market, and rigs of all sorts proliferated in the late 40s and early 50s. The **Hallcrafters** company came out with their **HT-18 VFO/exciter** in 1947, offering a very stable VFO with the then-popular (it was cheap!) FM phone option. Yes, FM is/was legal on HF. The **HT-18** was, in its own right an actual QRP transmitter, offering fixed tuned link coupled output on 80 through 10 meters (no WARC bands then), with a minimum of 4 watts output, dropping to a minimum of 2.5 watts on 10 meters. The **HT-18** offered simplicity of operation—no tuning—and excellent stability in its day. Only two different tubes were used in the RF and AF portions—6BA6s in the audio and VFO, and a 6L6 beam tube for the output, run very conservatively. The power supply used a 5U4 rectifier and two regulator tubes. It could be used as a QRP transmitter, or it could drive a simple tetrode or pentode amp for up to several hundred watts. At \$110 in 1947 it was a bit pricey for the performance level but it was well built with solid circuitry. Many are still in use today.

SECOND STATION

Back in November, my wife broke her ankle. With the obvious need to be where I could tend to her if she needed something, and my man cave being in the garage, it meant the end of my Ham radio operations for a while. Or did it? I set up a simple station on the dining room table. I used a Kenwood TS-440SAT and power supply, a 1937 McElroy bug, and a 1900 vintage Western Union polechanger hand key. No mic, I rarely use voice, and no keyboard or computer in **MY** shack! For antennas I used my 7 ft high fence-mounted 80/40 dipole, a 14 ft high inverted L half wave end-fed for 40M, and a hastily erected 20M inverted L end-fed which could also be tuned to 30 and 17M. Works OK, made quite a few SKN contacts, and a bunch of regular contacts. Mostly, it kept me on the air!**WB2AWQ**



SNARS (MONTHLY) ZOOM HAM RADIO TECH NIGHT



3rd Monday of each month at 7PM PT

Our second ELMER+ Ham Radio Night in 2021 was a great success on Monday Feb 15th. We had well over 40 attendees on zoom conferencing.

The topic smaller breakout groups were

CW/stealth antennas ** Analog VHF/UHF ** DMR/Fusion

** RFI - Radio Frequency Interference

Each participant could move themselves around to different breakout topics to enjoy.

If you have any questions or would like to be of service as an Elmer, please contact K6ST Barry k6st@arrl.net

Feel free to register for our next ELMER+ Ham Radio Tech Night, SNARS (virtual on Zoom conferencing) 3-15-2021 7:00p PT

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0rdeGvrzlrGdQthRDN8zLhlboLZaCD_w9E

ARES NEWS

Are you a camper? **July 18- 19 is the Tahoe Rim Trail.**

The TRT 100 Mile Back Country Run consists of three runs, a 100 Mile, 50 Mile and 55 K Run starting in Carson City, North along the East "Tahoe Rim Trail" and back to Carson City. The run starts at 0600 Saturday morning and ends at 1600 Sunday.

OUR MISSION:

To provide clear, concise communications between aid station captains and event coordinators. To expedite emergency communications between aid stations, event coordinators, net control and emergency responders. To ensure a safe and enjoyable event and to support the awareness and growth of Amateur Radio in the community.

If you like to camp-out, we could use your help. Even if you do not have a portable station, we need a **minimum** of 2 Hams per aid station.

Most aid stations require 4WD except the Diamond Peak aid station, in fact you could bring a camping trailer or RV.

If you cannot camp out, can you operate during the day, Saturday, or Sunday? You can drive in and out of Diamond Peak Aid Station?

If you do have camping gear but do not have 4WD you could be teamed up someone who does and ride with one of them.

START FINISH (NCS) Carson City, Aid Stations: Hobart, Bull Wheel, Tunnel Creek, Diamond Peak, Snow Valley Peak, Red House.

Bob WA6MTY is coordinating the event so come out and help this event to keep the runners safe.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call or email Me.

For more information email WA6MTY@gbis.com.

Mark your calendar 9/15-9/19 2021 is the schedule for the Reno Air Races unless it is cancelled because of COVID.

We help with security, checking passes of people going to the PITS which where the race teams prepare the planes for their races or checking passes of people going into the grandstands.

If you want FREE access to the Air Races, I have two options:

For full access to everywhere the public goes including free parking, help with 16 hours volunteer time and you will be able to **attend any time during the week.**

Many times, we help with security the entire week so you can spread the 16 hours over several days.

The second option, for people that cannot put in 16 hours of volunteer time, volunteer four hours, you can get a **one-day pass**, full access to the race including parking.

Anyone over 18 can help, you do not have to be a Ham or a member of ARES.

Just contact me Bob WA6MTY and I will keep you up to date. Wa6mty@GBIS.COM

Washoe County ARES Emergency Coordinator,
Bob Miller, WA6MTY

WA6MTY@wcares.us Tel (775) 843-5952

KF7KTC's PHILIPPINES RELOCATION

It has been a difficult year for all of us. For some it has been more difficult, and each of us has their own experiences to reflect on. For some of those that we know, they unfortunately did not make it through the year. We grieve for those friends and family members that did not make it.

For me, I have missed the kisses and embraces of my beloved family in the Philippines. I had been absent for almost 12 months. I was able to obtain special viss permission to re-enter the Philippines, and was on almost the first flight from Los Angeles to Manila when the flight ban ended on February 1st. I arrived on February 4th at about 5AM.

I had flown by Philippine Airlines, and only about every other seat was occupied. The cabin crew wore full surgical garb, with hair covered, gloves, actual N95 masks and face shields. The meals were not as good as usual, but better than most U.S. carriers serve on a regular basis. Prior to landing we had a packet of questionnaires, customs, immigration, and health forms to fill out. Some were for detailing where we were going to stay for our initial quarantine, and where we resided in the Philippines. Understand that in general no non-residents were being permitted to enter the Philippines, and only those resident foreigners with dependents were allowed if you were not a Philippine citizen. Retirees and other visa holders were still prohibited. On arrival, the Philippine Coast Guard boarded, announced an advisory about procedures to be followed upon disembarking, and screened everyone for their temperature with actual infrared cameras.

Philippine Airlines had the processing for entry very well organized. We heard that other airlines took several hours to process their passengers. Even with still more paperwork, we were done in a little more than an hour. Part of the additional processing included paying in advance for a COVID-19 test to be done at our prearranged quarantine hotel on our sixth day in quarantine.

I had chosen and paid in advance for seven nights at "The Red Hotel - Cubao", located in Quezon City, as it was closer to home than the airport area hotels. Taxi fare was 1000 pesos (about U.S. \$20.00), including a very generous tip, as the taxi drivers in Manila are having a hard time getting fares at the airport due to lack of passengers coming in.



The hotel is 4-Star rated, and was actually quite nice. While traveling previously in Asia I have stayed in 5-Star hotels, as well as common Chinese businessmen's hotels, and this hotel room was very comfortable for my stay, but typical for Asian hotels as being smaller than most U.S. hotel rooms.

I was required to follow strict quarantine isolation for my stay, and the only time I saw anyone was when my meals were delivered. I had a television with some internet access, Wi-Fi, some books I brought with me, and a laptop so I could do some writing. I have several stories I need to submit for publication once they are finished.

Breakfast was part of my accommodation, and I quickly found out that the meals were being economized due to lack of revenue. But my usual choice of a fried egg, chicken longanisa and garlic rice was enough to hold me through the day, with a merienda (snack) in midday. The hard choice was for supper, and we were allowed to order out if we wanted. One night I had the hotel restaurant's sinagang na baboy (typically, a tamarind flavored soup, with multiple types of delicious vegetables, and tender, meaty pork ribs). What I got was a lot of very salty tamarind broth, almost no vegetables, and nearly meatless ribs. My wife just laughs when she hears this. She says it sounds like prison food. So, I ordered out things like Jollibee Chicken Joy, with fried chicken, rice, and delicious gravy. I also love their peach- mango pies, and usually have three of them with coffee.



For the last year I have kept fairly isolated, so this week in isolation was not difficult for me. Also, I was able to reach out and talk with family and friends through Messenger video call and through Zoom for my Amateur Radio friends on the first Saturday of the month.

(Continued next month)



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2021 - 6:00PM

At Chin Chin plus Zoom

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:00 PM

Board of Directors:

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	P	Barry Bettman, K6ST	P	John Miller, N7JDM	P
Bill Jones, AE7OX	P	John Byerly, N7ROJ	P	Wes Vick, KG7QXE	P
Jim Shepherd, W6US	P	Doug Edmondo, W7DBE	P		P

No guests in attendance

2. Approval of Minutes - Discussion/Action

The board approved the January 2021 meeting minutes

3. Approval of Agenda - Discussion/Action

The board approved the agenda for February's meeting

4. Reports

A. President's Report: Received an anonymous \$256 donation. Noted testing on the 20th at the R.E.O.C.

B. Secretary Report – 432 Members, no business or filing activities, updated the website with the approved bylaws.

C. Treasurer – January 2021 End of Month, Operating: \$7,745, Savings: \$11,017, Self Insurance: \$10,309, Paypal: \$1,207, Convention: \$4,295. Net Monthly (\$388) net YTD: (\$388). Memberships 19, Monthly donations \$70. Notes:

Transferred \$1,000 from PayPal to checking
Transferred \$95 from Checking to Savings
Transferred \$190 from Checking to Self-Insurance

Mailed 3 member badges \$3.60

Reordered 1 member badge \$14.85

NVQSO plaques \$81.00, postage \$25.65

D. Technical Team: Pat and John to meet up to give Pat Dave Metz's donated repeater, Pat will decide where it goes. Barry noted that a member has a DMR repeater to donate – John will contact.

E. Control Operators / Trustee: No report

F. Events

1. Ham Radio Night
2. Still thinking about in person activities (Fox Hunt etc.) once we can.

G. Education & Youth Activities

ARRL round up with UNR week of Feb 8th Barry set up a Zoom and they had about an hour discussion on technical topics. Jim noted that in the CA QSO party the UNR club set a record.

H. Noon Net - Noon Net Manager mentioned Brian K5NEV as additional NCO

5. Old Business

A. Members Only Website – Continued effort

B. In person monthly meetings – no word on when

C. “Ham Fest” type of events – See above note in Events.

D. Field Day Status – Jim has obtained the prime spot, still needs help, especially for food. Mr. Dunbar tentative Logistics chief.

E. Band Pass Filters – Not sure if the company can meet our needs prior to field day. Jim mentioned needing more Tuners. John B. Dropped off some tuners in the club shed and has a few more if need be.

6. New Business

A. No new business

7. Board member and Public Comments

Jim Shepherd: Happy with Ham Radio Night (3rd Mondays), Lots of interest in RFI maybe good topic for upcoming Ham Radio Night. Will start calling members for Field Day help.

Wes Vick: No comments

John Miller: Thanked Jim on field day location and noted Bill needs to stay on top of the Band Pass filter order

Barry Bettman – Maybe we can borrow some band pass filters if needed. Leverage Field Day for Elmering time (3rd Monday in June is the 20th and field day is later in the week).

Bill Jones: No comments

Tony – No comments

There were no public comments.

8. Adjournment - Action

A. Next Meeting: March 10, 2021. Location Zoom and Chin Chin

B. Adjourned at 1830